



THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

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Libertarians Say "Thanks!" for 2nd Government Shutdown

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Libertarian Party did something unusual today: It issued a heart-felt "thank-you" to Republican and Democratic politicians for shutting down the federal government again.

"We love you guys," said Libertarian Party Director of Communications Bill Winter with a big smile. "Newt Gingrich and Bill Clinton, keep up the good work! You're helping millions of Americans realize how unnecessary most government actually is."

His comments came as the second government shutdown in a month idled 280,000 "non-essential" federal workers.

"But seriously, this shutdown will keep the government bureaucrats out of mischief for a few days. We Libertarians like that," said Winter. "But, it isn't the real, fundamental reduction of government that Libertarians -- and most Americans -- want." For example, Winter noted...

■ "The shutdown won't save American taxpayers a single penny. Those non-essential federal workers will continue to get paid not to work."

■ "It won't make the government smaller. When Clinton and Gingrich reach their inevitable compromise, those non-essential workers will flock back to Washington, DC, and start doing the same non-essential work again."

Winter said he knows who deserves blame for the shutdown: "Republicans say Democrats are to blame. Democrats say Republicans are to blame. They're both correct. Both parties conspired to create our \$5 trillion national debt. Unfortunately, it will take more than a few shutdowns to stop their campaign to bankrupt America."

The Libertarian Party, America's third largest political party, will be on the ballot in all 50 states in 1996, and expects to run more than 1,000 candidates for public office -- far more than any other third party.

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